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### (54) Oil detecting system

(57) An oil detecting system for detecting a leakage oil, for example, from parts and equipments of a vehicle and a plant comprises an irradiation apparatus for irradiating a light including an absorption wavelength of an oil to be detected and exciting molecules of the oil to make the oil fluoresce, a wavelength selection apparatus operatively connected to the irradiation apparatus and adapted to select a fluorescence wavelength of the leakage oil fluoresced by the irradiation apparatus, and an observation apparatus for detecting the fluorescence of the leakage oil and selecting only a period of fluorescing the leakage oil. A processing apparatus may be further provided so as to be operatively connected to the observation apparatus and adapted to process an image or a signal from the observation apparatus.

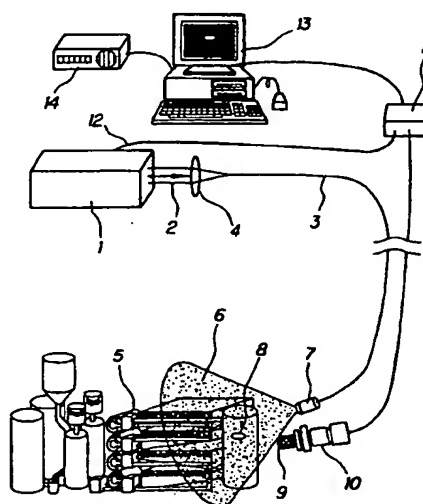


FIG. 1

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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 97 10 7632

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	WO 93 13404 A (ELECTRIC POWER RES INST)	1-7,9,10	G01N21/64
Y	* page 4 - page 8; claims 1,2; figure 2 *	16,17	G01N33/28
Y	US 5 001 353 A (ODAKE ATUSHI ET AL)	16,17	G01M3/04
A	* claims 1-3 *	21	F16N29/00
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A	* page 11, line 20 - page 16, line 24 *	12	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
A	* page 24, line 11 - line 34; figures 7,11 *		G01N
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 009, no. 151 (P-367), 26 June 1985 & JP 60 029641 A (MITSUBISHI DENKI KK), 15 February 1985, * abstract *	1,10	F16N
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	* page 5, paragraph 1 - paragraph 2; claims 1-8 *		
A	US 4 897 551 A (GERSH MICHAEL E ET AL)		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>THE HAGUE</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>2 March 1998</b>	Examiner <b>Tabellion, M</b>
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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